

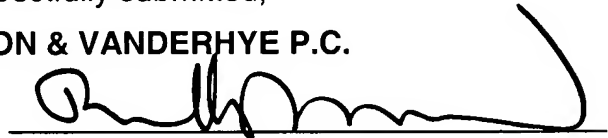
**REMARKS**

The above amendments are made to insert a cross reference to the PCT application upon which the instant U.S. national phase is based, to add an Abstract of the Disclosure and to eliminate multiple dependencies in the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bryan H. Davidson', is written over a horizontal line.

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## **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The invention relates to a process for the extraction of energy from flue gases of a furnace which is operated with a fuel and which is used in a process for the production of melamine, the process comprising a first heat exchange step in which the flue gases are heat exchanged with a first process stream, and in which the flue gases are heat exchanges with a second process stream in a second heat exchange step. The invention also relates to an apparatus for supplying heat in a process for the preparation of melamine, and to a process for optimizing an existing apparatus.